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FOR

ESTABLISHING A PERMANENT FUND FOR THE RELIEF AND SUPPORT OF SKIPPERS AND KEELMEN EMPLOYED ON THE RIVER *TYNE*, WHO BY SICKNESS, OR OTHER ACCIDENTAL MISFORTUNES, OR BY OLD AGE, SHALL NOT BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES; AND ALSO FOR THE RELIEF OF THE WIDOWS AND CHILDREN OF SUCH SKIPPERS AND KEELMEN.

WITH THE

B Y - L A W S

OF THE SOCIETY ESTABLISHED BY THE SAID ACT.

NE W C A S T L E:

PRINTED BY M. ANGUS, SIDE.

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RB.23 6.1033



A N
A C T

F O R

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THE RELIEF AND SUPPORT OF SKIPPERS
AND KEELMEN EMPLOYED ON THE RIVER
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SHALL NOT BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN THEM-
SELVES AND THEIR FAMILIES; AND ALSO
FOR THE RELIEF OF THE WIDOWS AND
CHILDREN OF SUCH SKIPPERS AND KEEL-
MEN.

WHEREAS the Skippers and Keelmen Preamble.
employed in navigating Keels upon
the River *Tyne* are very numerous, and from
the Nature of their Employment are obliged
to reside in Two or Three Parishes or Town-
ships near the said River; so that when
they or their Families become Objects of Pa-
rochial Relief, either the Parishes or Town-
ships in which they are settled are grievously
burthened, or sufficient Provision is not made
for their Support:

AND WHEREAS great Benefit will result to
the said Skippers and Keelmen, and their
Families, and a Reduction of the Poor Rates
in the Parishes or Townships where they are
settled will be effected, by forming such
Skippers and Keelmen into a Society, and
establishing a permanent Fund, by the Allow-

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ance

ance of a small Sum out of their respective Wages, which they are willing to make, to be applied for the Relief and Support of themselves and their Families, in Case of Sicknes, Old Age, or Infirmit, and of their Widows and Children :

May it therefore please your MAJESTY,

Skippers and
Keelmen
formed into a
Society, to be
called

“ The Socie-
ty of Keel-
men on the
River *Tyne*, ”

Guardians
appointed.

That it may be Enacted ; AND BE IT ENACTED by the KING’s Most Excellent MAJESTY, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the First Day of *July* next, after the passing of this Act, all and every the Skippers and Keelmen navigating Keels upon the said River *Tyne* shall be and are hereby formed into a Society for the Purpose of raising and establishing a permanent Fund in manner hereinafter mentioned, to be applied in maintaining and supporting themselves and their Families in Cases of Sicknes, Old Age, or Infirmit, and their Widows and Children, which shall be called and denominated “ The Society of Keelmen on the River *Tyne*. ”

AND, to the End that the Affairs of the said Society may be orderly managed and conducted, and the Funds thereof faithfully administered and applied, BE IT ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That Sir *Matthew White Ridley*, Baronet, and *Charles Brandling*, Esquire, Members now serving in Parliament for the Town and County of *Newcastle upon Tyne*, *William Cramlington*, Esquire, now Mayor of the said Town and County, *Christopher Fawcett*,

cett, Esquire, now Recorder of the said Town and County, Aubone Surtees, Esquire, Edward Mosley, Esquire, John Hedley, Esquire, and Hugh Hornby, Esquire, now Aldermen of the said Town and County, Joseph Forster, Esquire, now Sheriff of the said Town and County, John Erasmus Blackett, Esquire, now Governor of the Company of Hoastmen within the said Town and County, Jonathan Airey, and John Widdrington, Esquires, now Stewards of the said Company of Hoastmen, and George Colpitts, Robert Rayne, Anthony Hood, Richard Bell, Thomas Ismay, Henry Scott, Ralph Atkinson, Henry Airey, and Robert Lisle, now Members and Trading Brethren of the said Company of Hoastmen, being in Number Twenty-one, shall be, and they are hereby constituted and appointed Guardians of the said Society, called "The Society of Keelmen "on the River Tyne," from and after the said First Day of July next ensuing, for One whole Year, and until a new Election of Guardians shall take Place, as hereinafter is directed, and shall have the Order, Disposition, and Management of the Affairs and Funds thereof.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Guardians, so hereby constituted and appointed, and their Successors, to be elected and appointed in Manner hereinafter mentioned, shall be, and they are hereby declared to be a Body Politic and Corporate under the Name and Description of "The Guardians of the Society of Keelmen on the River Tyne," and shall have perpetual Succession, and shall have, enjoy, and possess, all the Powers, Privileges, and Capacities, to take and transmit Property, to sue and be sued, and to do other Acts competent

Who are to
be a Body
Politic and
Corporate.

petent to Bodies Politic and Corporate to do and perform, and they shall have, and from Time to Time use a Corporate Seal; and that they and their Successors, by the Name aforesaid, shall and may, at any Time hereafter, without Licence in Mortmain, purchase, take, or receive any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or any Estate or Interest derived out of the same, so as such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments be only for the Scite of, or be to be converted into an Hospital, with Offices and Appurtenances necessary thereunto.

Guardians to provide an Hospital for the infirm Keelmen, &c.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Guardians and their Successors, to be elected as hereinafter directed, shall and may and they are hereby authorized and impowered to provide an Hospital for the Reception and Maintenance of such Skippers and Keelmen, employed, or to be employed on the River *Tyne*, as shall by Sickness or other accidental Misfortunes, or by becoming decrepit or worn out with Age, be rendered incapable of maintaining themselves or their Families, or shall provide for such Skippers and Keelmen by allowing them certain Pensions, or otherwise, as to the said Guardians and their Successors shall seem meet, and most for the Advantage of the intended Charity; and also to relieve the Widows and Children of such Skippers and Keelmen, provided such Children are not of the Age of Fourteen Years, or if of that Age or upwards, not capable of getting a Livelihood by Reason of Lameness, Blindness, or other Infirmities, so far forth as the Income and Revenues which are, shall, or may be vested in the said Guardians and their Successors, will extend for the Purposes aforesaid:

Provided

Provided always, that no Skipper or Keelman shall be entitled to any of the Benefits of this Act, unless he shall produce or cause to be produced, to the said Guardians or their Successors, a Certificate from the Stewards of the said Society of Keelmen hereinafter named, and their Successors, to be elected as herein-after is directed, or any Five of them, in Writing under their Hands or Marks, declaring such Skipper or Keelman to be a fit Object of the Charity, and entitled to the Benefit thereof ; and that no Widow, Child, or Children, of any Skipper or Keelman shall be relieved, or entitled to any Allowance under this Act, unless she or they, or some Person on her or their Behalf, shall produce a Certificate to the said Guardians or their Successors, from the said Stewards or their Successors, or any Five of them, in Writing under their Hands or Marks, signifying that such Widow was the lawful Wife and real Widow, and that such Child or Children was or were the lawful Child or Children of such Skippers or Keelmen, and is or are under the Age of Fourteen Years, or if of that Age or upwards, incapable of getting a Livelihood, by Reason of Lameness, Blindness, or other Infirmity, and that such Widow, or Child or Children respectively, is or are proper Objects of the Charity : And provided also, that no Skipper or Keelman, nor Widow or Children of any Skipper or Keelman, shall have, receive, or enjoy any Benefit or Provision under this Act, unless such Skipper or Keelman shall have contributed his Quota towards the Fund hereby directed to be raised for the Space of One entire Year without wilful or intentional Interruption : and provided also, that no Skipper or Keelman, nor the Widow or Children

No Keelman to be entitled to the Benefits of this Act, unless he shall produce a Certificate of the Stewards of the Society, declaring him to be an Object of the Charity.

No Keelman, nor his Widow or Children, shall be entitled to the Benefits of this Act, unless he shall have contributed his Quota to the Fund for one entire Year :

petent to Bodies Politic and Corporate to do and perform, and they shall have, and from Time to Time use a Corporate Seal; and that they and their Successors, by the Name aforesaid, shall and may, at any Time hereafter, without Licence in Mortmain, purchase, take, or receive any Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or any Estate or Interest derived out of the same, so as such Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments be only for the Scite of, or be to be converted into an Hospital, with Offices and Appurtenances necessary thereunto.

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of

Nor in case of any Skipper or Keelman, who shall have contributed his Quota towards the Fund aforesaid for the Space of One entire Year, but shall afterwards cease to be employed as a Skipper or Keelman, on the said River *Tyne*, shall be entitled to any Relief whatsoever from the said Fund, unless such Skipper or Keelman respectively shall, from the Time of his ceasing to be so employed, pay or contribute towards the said Fund such Sum or Sums of Money as the said Guardians or their Successors, or the Major Part of them, shall direct or appoint, not exceeding in the Whole Six Pence *per* Week, Weekly and every Week during the time he shall continue unemployed, except where the Cessation of Employment shall be occasioned by his being impressed into his Majesty's Service, or by Old Age, Sicknes, or other Infirmitiy.

except he shall
be impressed,
&c.

Three of the
Guardians to
be a Commit-
tee, and meet
the first *Thurs-
day* in every
Month, at the
Guildhall in
Newcastle.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That any Three or more of the said Guardians for the Time being shall be a Committee, and shall meet from Time to Time, upon the First *Thursday* in every Month, in the Guildhall of the said Town and County, and at such other Time or Times as they shall think fit to appoint, and such Committee shall have Power, when assembled as aforesaid, in the Name of the said Corporation, and on their Account, to apply the Monies arising and to be received by virtue of this Act, vested in the said Corporation, for the Relief and Support of such Skippers and Keelmen, and their Widows and Children, as are before described, and to appoint and chuse, and at their Pleasure to remove, displace, and supply any Officers, Servants, and other Person or Persons to be employed in the Business of

of the said Corporation, other than and except the Stewards of the said Society herein-after appointed, and such Officers and Persons as shall be appointed by the Guardians of the said Society, and to direct and appoint such Salaries, Perquisites, or other Rewards, for their Labour or Service therein, as the said Committee shall approve or think proper, and to do, manage, transact, and determine all such other Matters and Things, as to them shall appear necessary and convenient for effecting the Purposes of this Act.

PROVIDED ALWAYS, That the Management, Transactions, and Accounts of such Committee shall be from Time to Time, and at all Times hereafter, subject and liable to such Audit and Inspection, Allowance, Disallowance, and Control of all or such of the Guardians of the said hereby erected Corporation, as by any Bye Laws or Ordinances of the same Corporation shall be for that Purpose directed and appointed.

The Transactions, &c. of the Committee to be subject to the Control of the other Guardians.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That each respective Hoastman or Fitter, or Co-partnership of Hoastmen or Fitters upon the River *Tyne*, shall on the First Day of *July* next after the passing of this Act, or within Five Days before the said First Day of *July*, appoint a Place and Time, and duly give Notice thereof to the several Skippers and Keelmen then bound or belonging to him or them, or employed in his or their Work, for a general Meeting of all his or their Skippers and Keelmen, who shall, at the Time and Place so to be appointed, meet and assemble together, and after having chosen a Chairman of such Meeting, they, or the greater Number

Election of Stewards.

of

of them so assembled, shall proceed to name or elect one Skipper or Keelman belonging to such Work, who shall be and become a Steward of the said Society of Keelmen until the First Day of *July* then next following, and on the First Day of *July*, in every Year, Yearly for ever thereafter, or within Five Days before such First Day of *July*, a new Choice or Election of a Steward for each Work shall in like Manner be had and taken by the said Skippers and Keelmen of each respective Work, or the greater Part of them present at such Meeting to be appointed as aforesaid, for the Year then next following, each which Steward shall continue and remain a Steward for the Work for which he shall be so elected unto the next annual Election of Stewards shall take Place in Manner aforesaid ; and in Case of an Equality of Votes, such Chairman shall have and exercise a double or casting Vote,

The Chair-
man of the
Meeting to
have a casting
Vote.

Election of
Guardians.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Stewards, so to be elected and appointed as last-mentioned, shall on the Second Day of *July*, in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-nine, and on the Second Day of *July*, in every Year for ever thereafter, except in any Year when the Second Day of *July* shall fall on a *Sunday*, and then on the Day next following, meet and assemble together in the Guildhall of the said Town of *Newcastle upon Tyne*, at Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon, and after having appointed a Chairman of such Meeting, they, or the greater Number of them then assembled, shall proceed to Name and elect Twenty-one Persons to be the Guardians of the said Society for the Year ensuing, of which Number the Members serving in Parliament

Parliament, for *Newcastle* aforesaid for the Time being, the Mayor, the Recorder, the Four Senior Aldermen, and the Sheriff of *Newcastle* aforesaid for the Time being, and the Governor and Stewards of the Company or Fraternity of Hoastmen within the said Town shall be Twelve, and the remaining Nine of which Number shall be Trading or Meeting Brethren of the said Company of Hoastmen, which said Twenty-one Persons, so to be elected, shall be and continue Guardians of the said Society until the next annual Election shall take place in Manner aforesaid; and in Case of an Equality of Votes, such Chairman shall have and exercise Chairman to have a casting Vote.

PROVIDED ALWAYS, AND IT IS HEREBY ENACTED, That in Case of the Death of the Members serving in Parliament for the said Town, the Mayor, Recorder, Four Senior Aldermen, and Sheriff of the said Town, and of the Governors and Stewards of the said Company or Fraternity of Hoastmen, or any of them, or in case they or any of them shall quit or depart from their respective Offices, the Successors or Successor of them, or any of them, so dying, or quitting, or departing from their Offices as aforesaid, shall be and become Guardians or Guardian of the said Society of Keelmen immediately upon his or their being elected to Parliament, or to any of the said Offices in the Room of the Person or Persons so dying, or quitting or departing from his or their Offices as aforesaid, and shall be and continue Guardians or Guardian until a new Election of Guardians shall be made in Manner aforesaid; and in case of the Death of any other or others of the said Guardians so to be elected as aforesaid, the Vacancy or Vacancies

Provision in case of Death, &c. of Guardians.

thereby occasioned shall not be supplied until the next annual Day of Election, and the Corporation hereby established shall be and be deemed full and complete, notwithstanding such Vacancy or Vacancies: Provided also, That if it shall happen at the Time of any such Election of Guardians as aforesaid, that there shall not be a sufficient Number of Meeting or Trading Brethren of the Company or Fraternity of Hoastmen to supply the Number hereinbefore directed to be elected from that Body, it shall and may be lawful for the Stewards for the Time being, to name and elect in manner aforesaid a sufficient Number of Guardians from the Common Council of the said Town of *Newcastle* for the Time being, to supply such Deficiency.

Power for
Guardians to
make Bye-
Laws, &c.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Guardians for the Time being, or any Eleven of them, to make, ordain, and constitute such and so many Bye-Laws, Orders, Ordinances, and Constitutions as to them, or any Eleven of them, shall seem necessary and convenient for the establishing the said hereby-erected Corporation, and carrying on the affairs thereof, and for appointing the Officers, Servants, and others to be employed therein, and for the better applying the Money hereby directed to be raised and received, and providing for the Persons entitled to the Benefits of this Act, and for auditing the Accounts, and controuling, allowing, or disallowing the Transactions of the said Committee; and the same Bye-Laws, Orders, Ordinances, and Constitutions so made to put in Use accordingly, and at their Will and Pleasure to revoke, change, and alter the same, so always as such Bye-Laws, Orders, Ordinances, and Constitutions

tions be reasonable, and not repugnant to the Laws, Customs, and Statutes of this Realm, or any of the express Provisions or Regulations of this Act.

AND, for raising a Fund for effecting the good Ends and Purposes aforesaid, BE IT ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That the Crew of every Keel which shall be employed by any Hoastman or Fitter, or any Copartnership of Hoastmen or Fitters, or other Person or Persons upon the said River *Tyne*, shall, during such their Employment, pay, contribute, or allow Weekly such Sum or Sums of Money as the said Guardians or their Successors, or the major Part of them, shall from Time to Time, direct or appoint, not exceeding in the whole, the Sum of One Penny for each and every Chaldron of Coals, Lead, Stones, Ballast, Chalk, Ashes, Manure, and Rubbish (reckoning Fifty-three Hundred Weight to a Chaldron) which shall be respectively carried in each such Keel; which said Weekly Sum or Sums of Money such Hoastman or Fitter, or Copartnership of Hoastmen or Fitters, or other Person employing each such Keel Crew, shall be at Liberty, and is hereby authorised and required to deduct and retain out of the Wages due to such Keel Crew respectively, and to pay over the same to such Officer or Officers as shall be appointed under this Act for the collecting and receiving the same.

Each Keel Crew to pay not exceeding One Penny per Chaldron out of their Weekly Wages.

AND IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That the said Weekly Stoppages or Allowances shall be paid to, and collected by the Person or Persons to be appointed to receive the same as aforesaid, on *Monday* in every Week, the first Payment there-

On *Monday* in every Week, according to a Muster Roll.

thereof to be made on *Monday* the Seventh Day of *July* next after the passing of this *Act*, for the Week then immediately preceding, according to a written Muster Roll or Particular to be kept by each Hoastman or Fitter, or Copartnership of Hoastmen or Fitters, or other Person, by whom such Skippers and Keelmen are respectively employed, containing the Number of Keels employed by each respectively, and also the Number of Skippers and Keelmen belonging thereto, and what Number of Tides have been gone or performed by such Keels respectively, and such other Particulars as shall be sufficient to ascertain with Accuracy, what Stoppages or Allowances ought to be kept or retained by such Hoastman or Fitter, or Copartnership of Hoastmen or Fitters, or other Person respectively, and paid over, according to the Directions of this *Act*; and that the Person or Persons so employed to collect such Stoppages or Allowances as aforesaid shall be furnished or supplied with a Duplicate of such Muster Roll or Particular, properly authenticated under their Hands, by such Hoastmen or Fitters, or other Persons respectively, or their respective Clerks or Agents.

^a Duplicate
of which
Muster Roll
is to be given
to the Collector.

Mayor or two
Aldermen to
summon Fit-
ters and Collec-
tors. &c.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That for the better ascertaining what shall from Time to Time be due from the said Skippers and Keelmen respectively, and what shall come to the Hands of the Person or Persons so to be employed to collect the same, it shall and may be lawful to and for the Mayor, or any Two of the Aldermen of *Newcastle* aforesaid for the Time being, and he and they is and are hereby required, by Warrant under his or their Hand or Hands, at the Request of the Guardians of the said

So-

Society for the Time being, or any Three or more of them, to summon such Hoastmen or Fitters and Collectors respectively before him or them, and to examine them upon Oath respectively as to the Truth of the Copy or Duplicate of the said Muster Roll or Particular, and as to the Sums of Money paid and received for or on Account of the Stoppages or Allowances so to be made as aforesaid ; and in case of any Embezzlement or Misapplication of the Money so received, then by Warrant under his or their Hand or Hands to levy such Sum or Sums of Money, as shall appear to have been so embezzled or misapplied by Distress and Sale of the Goods or Chattles of the Person or Persons offending, together with the Charges or Expences necessarily incident thereto, and to pay the Money so to be levied, after deducting thereout such necessary Charges and Expences as aforesaid, to the Guardians of the said Society for the Time being, or any Three of them, to be by them applied to the Purposes of this Act ; and if such Hoastmen or Fitters, or Collectors, or any of them, shall refuse or neglect when so summoned, to appear before the Person or Persons hereby empowered to examine them as aforesaid, or if they shall appear, and refuse to make a full and true Discovery of the Matters aforesaid upon their several Oaths, then and in every such Case all and every such Offender or Offenders, for every such Refusal, shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Ten Pounds.

and examine
them upon
Oath ;

and in case of
Embezzle-
ment to levy
by Distress
and Sale.

Fitters or
Collectors
refusing to
appear on
Summons,

forfeit £.10.

AND IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, that the charges in and about procuring and obtaining this Act shall be paid out of the First Monies to be raised by Virtue of this Act, and all such Monies as shall be thereafter raised (after pay-

ing
Charges of
this Act, and
of Officers'
Salaries, to
be first paid,
then and the
Receipts to
accumulate for
Two Years,

ing the Salaries of Officers) until the First Day of *July*, which will be in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Ninety, shall accumulate and be a Fund for purchasing and building an Hospital, and for other the Purposes of this Act, it being the true Intent and Meaning of this Act that no Allowance or Provision shall be made to any Skippers or Keelmen, or the Widows or Children of any Skippers or Keelmen, out of the Funds to be raised by this Act, until after the said First Day of *July* One Thousand Seven hundred and Ninety.

Savings to be placed in the Funds.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That whenever the Money remaining in the Hands of the said Guardians, or their proper Officer or Officers, and not immediately required to be applied to the Purposes of this Act, shall amount to One hundred Pounds, then and in every such Case, such Guardians, or any Three of them, shall forthwith direct such Money to be invested in some of the Public Funds, in the Name of the Corporation hereby established, which shall be forthwith invested, and, together with the Interest accruing thereon, shall be and become Part of the Funds of the said Society, and shall be applied by such Guardians, or any Three or more of them, when Occasion shall require, to the Purposes of this Act, and to no other Use or Purpose whatsoever.

Allowance to be made towards the Expence of Members' Funerals, &c.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Guardians, or any Three of them, and they are hereby required to lay out and expend, from the Fund hereby established, such reasonable Sum or Sums as they shall think proper for and towards the Expence of the Funerals of such of

the

the said Skippers and Keelmen, or of their Widows or Children, as shall die after the said First Day of *July* which will be in the Year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Ninety, and as shall at the Time of his, her, or their Death or Deaths be entitled to any Provision or Allowance out of the said Fund hereby established.

PROVIDED ALWAYS, AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That all such Person or Persons as shall apply for Relief out of the Fund hereby established, shall, if required by the said Guardians, or any Three of them, besides the Certificate hereinbefore directed to be given, produce, or cause to be produced, before such Guardians, One or more Affidavit or Affidavits, to be duly sworn before One of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, in Support of his, her, or their Claim or Claims to Relief, or such other Proof as to the said Guardians, or any Three of them, shall seem reasonable or necessary in that Behalf.

AND PROVIDED ALSO, AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That if any of the said Skippers or Keelmen, their Widows or Children, shall by Deceit, Coven, Misrepresentation, or other fraudulent Means, procure any Provision or Relief from the Fund established by this Act, he, she, or they, so offending, shall be for ever thereafter incapable of receiving any of the Benefits of this Act.

AND, in order that the Keels used on the River *Tyne* may be fairly and justly loaded, after the due and accustomed Rate of Eight Chaldrons to each Keel, **BE IT ENACTED** by the Authority aforesaid, That no Person or Persons shall from and after the First Day of

July,

Persons applying for Relief, to make out their Claims.

Persons obtaining Relief by Fraud, &c. to be excluded from future Benefits.

Off-putters of Keels to take an Oath for the due Execution of their Office,

before they
can act.

Form of
Oath,

July next after the passing of this Act, be capable of acting as Off-putter or Off-putters at any Coal Staith upon the said River, until he or they respectively shall have taken and subscribed an Oath to the Effect following (that is to say) ;

“ I A. B. do swear, That I will faithfully
“ and according to the best of my Skill,
“ Knowledge, and Judgment, execute
“ and perform the Duty of Off-putter at
“ the Staith at where
“ I am now employed [or, to which I
“ have been appointed, *as the Case may*
“ *be*] and that I will to the utmost of
“ my Power cause the Keels using the
“ said Staith to be fairly and justly load-
“ ed, after the due and accustomed Rate
“ of Eight Chaldrons to each Keel, with-
“ out Favour, Partiality, Malice or Pre-
“ judice to any Person or Persons whom-
“ soever.”

“ So help me GOD.”

to be made
before the
Mayor, &c.
of Newcastle,
and filed in
the Town
Clerk's Office.

Which Oath the Mayor, or any of the Aldermen of the said Town of *Newcastle*, is hereby authorised and required to administer when thereunto requested ; and the same Oath, so taken and subscribed, shall be filed in the Office of the Town Clerk of the said Town for the Time being, and shall remain open to the Inspection of any Skipper or Keelman employed on the said River at all seafonable Times.

Public Act.

AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED by the Authority aforesaid, That this Act shall be deemed and taken to be a Public Act, and shall be judicially taken Notice of as such by all Judges, Justices, and other Persons whomsoever, without specially pleading the same.

BYE-

B Y - L A W S.

ORDERED, THAT the following Sums per Week be paid to those who shall be entitled to the Benefit of the Fund, and who shall produce the Certificate required by the Act; and that such Sums be paid on Saturday in each Week, at the house of Mr ~~W~~ ^{Ra. Dees} in Newcastle, between the hours of Ten in the Morning and One in the Afternoon.

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- 5 o To those who are disabled by temporary Lameness or Sickness.
- 3 o To those who are superannuated or disabled by Age.
- 1 6 To Widows without Children.
- 2 o To Widows having Two Children.
- 2 6 To Widows having ^{than two} ~~two or more~~ Children.

ORDERED ALSO, That Two Pounds be allowed for the Expence of the Funeral of a Keelman, or the Wife or Widow of a Keelman, and Ten Shillings for the Expence of the Funeral of a Child of a Keelman, if under the Age of Fourteen Years, and the Father be dead.

ORDERED, That Persons seeking Relief from the Fund, and giving Notice to the Stewards

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on Saturday, Sunday, or Monday, shall, if duly entitled, receive the stated Relief on the Saturday following. But if they do not give Notice till after Monday, their weekly Relief shall not commence till the second Saturday after Notice.

ORDERED, That Persons enjoying the Benefit of this Fund as superannuated, and unable to work at the Keels shall be at liberty to work at any other Employment they can obtain. But in case they shall thereby earn at the Rate of 4s. per Week or upwards, the Allowance to them shall be reduced according to the following Table.

If Earnings amount to	To receive from the Fund
4s. per Week and under 5s. - - -	2s. 6d. per Week.
5s. per Week and under 6s. - - -	2s. 0d. —————
6s. per Week and under 7s. - - -	1s. 0d. —————
7s. per Week and under 8s. - - -	Nothing.

But in that Case they shall not be required to contribute to the Fund.

If 8s. or more, they shall be required to contribute Six-pence per Week to the Fund.

ORDERED, That Persons knowingly obtaining Relief from the Fund, when they are not justly entitled; or continuing to receive Relief after they have ceased to be entitled; or knowingly receiving more than they are entitled to—shall forfeit all Benefit from the Fund, except in Cases where from special Circumstances the Guardians shall direct otherwise.

ORDERED, That the Stewards, or any five of them, shall have Power to put Persons, enjoying the full Benefit of Five Shillings per Week

Week, upon the superannuated List, in which Case the Allowance shall be reduced accordingly. But such Persons, if they think themselves aggrieved, shall have an Appeal to the Guardians against the Order of the Stewards.

ORDERED, That no Keelman shall be entitled to the Benefit of the Fund, unless he shall have been regularly bound to some Hoastman or Fitter, or Copartnership of Hoastmen or Fitters, for One Year, after the usual Manner.

ORDERED, That each Fitter shall stop the By-Tides, as well as the Ship-Tides, and keep a separate Account of each in the Muster Roll: And that, for discovering those who shall neglect to stop and account for the By-Tides, a Reward of One Guinea shall be given to any Person or Persons making Proof of such Neglect. And that every Skipper or Keelman neglecting to account or pay for By-Tides, shall, for the First Offence, be deprived of the Benefit of the Fund for One Year, and for the Second Offence Two Years, and for the Third Offence he shall be totally excluded.

ORDERED, That the Allowance from the Fund to the Widows of Keelmen cease, on their marrying a Second Time, becoming pregnant, or cohabiting with another man.

ORDERED, That all Keelmen not contributing to the Fund on account of Absence, shall pay up their Arrears within Six Kalendar Months after their return Home, on Pain of forfeiting to the Fund as much as their Arrears amount to. And on neglecting to pay such Arrears, and also the Amount thereof as a Forfeiture, with-

within Six Kalendar Months, from the Expiration of the First Six Months, they shall be excluded from all Benefit from the Fund.

ORDERED, That no Person shall receive the Benefit of the Fund, if they be Objects of Relief by means of any Injury received in a Quarrel, unless in self-defence. And in Case any Keelman injure another intentionally, so that he become an Object of Relief, he shall be obliged to re-emburse the Fund what is advanced out of it to the injured Person.



